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ABSTRACT

The ability to deal effectively with conflict is an important life skill. Ways in which to teach children an understanding of the mediation process and to use the techniques of adult mediators in resolving ordinary conflicts are presented in this teacher's guide. The training is organized into 12 sessions, each lasting less than an hour. Complete guidelines for individual sessions include a timeline for demonstrations, discussion guides, role playing and other exercises. Topics for sessions are: (1) "The Ball Game" -- ways to deal with conflict; (2) "What is a Conflict Manager"; (3) "Listening Skills"; (4) "Role Play Practice"; (5) "Understanding Other People's Point of View"; (6) "Cultural Diversity and Conflict"; (7) "Feelings," and "Feelings and the Conflict Manager Process"; (8) "Being Your Own Mediator"; (9) "Mediation Techniques"; (10) "Playground Positions and the Conflict Manager Contract"; (11) "Mediation Techniques" which teach disputants to use "I" messages and to restate the conflict; and (12) "Dealing with Difficult Situations." Appendices include a vocabulary list, information on supervising role plays (long and short versions) and 17 training handouts which may be copied for use in training. (EMK)

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